

§ 842.42 Delegations of authority.

(a) *Settlement authority.* (1) The Secretary of the Air Force has delegated authority to:

- (i) Settle claims for \$100,000 or less.
- (ii) Settle claims for more than \$100,000, paying the first \$100,000 and reporting the excess to the General Accounting Office for payment.
- (iii) Deny a claim in any amount.

(2) The Judge Advocate General has delegated authority to settle claims for \$100,000 or less and deny claims in any amount.

(3) The following individuals have delegated authority to settle claims for \$25,000 or less and deny claims in any amount:

- (i) The Deputy Judge Advocate General.
- (ii) The Director of Civil Law.
- (iii) The Chief, Deputy Chief and Branch Chiefs, Claims and Tort Litigation Staff.

(4) The SJA of 9AF for CENTCOM, and the SJAs of PACAF and USAFE have delegated authority to settle claims payable or deny claims filed for \$25,000 or less.

(5) SJAs of single base GCMs, and GCMs in PACAF and USAFE, and each Air Force base, station, or fixed installation have delegated authority to settle claims payable, or deny claims filed for \$15,000 or less.

(b) *Redelegation of authority.* A settlement authority may redelegate his or her authority for claims not exceeding \$25,000, to a subordinate judge advocate or civilian attorney in writing.

(c) *Appellate authority.* Upon appeal, a settlement authority has the same authority specified above. However, no appellate authority below the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force may deny an appeal of a claim it had previously denied.

(d) *Authority to reduce, withdraw, and restore settlement authority.* Any superior settlement authority may reduce, withdraw, or restore delegated authority.

(e) *Settlement negotiations.* A settlement authority may settle a claim in any sum within its delegated settlement authority, regardless of the amount claimed. Send uncompromised claims in excess of the delegated authority to the level with settlement

authority. Unsuccessful negotiations at one level do not bind higher authority.

(f) *Special exceptions.* Do not settle claims for the following without HQ USAF/JACC approval:

- (1) Legal malpractice.
- (2) On the job personal injury or death of an employee of a government contractor or subcontractor.
- (3) Assault, battery, false imprisonment, false arrest, abuse of process, or malicious prosecution committed by an investigative or law enforcement officer.
- (4) On-base animal bite cases.
- (5) Personal injury from asbestos or radon.

(6) Claims based upon an act or omission of an employee of the government, exercising due care, in the execution of a statute or regulation.

(7) Claims based upon the exercise or performance or the failure to exercise or perform a discretionary function or duty on the part of a federal agency or an employee of the government.

(8) Claims for damage to property of a state, commonwealth, territory, or the District of Columbia caused by ANG personnel engaged in training or duty under 32 U.S.C. 316, 502, 503, 504, or 505 who are assigned to a unit maintained by that state, commonwealth, territory or the District of Columbia.

(9) Claims not payable because payment is not in the best interests of the United States, is contrary to public policy, or is otherwise contrary to the basic intent of the MCA.

(10) Claims presented by a national, or a corporation controlled by a national, of a country at war or engaged in armed conflict with the United States, or any country allied with such enemy country.

(11) Medical malpractice.

[55 FR 2809, Jan. 29, 1990, as amended at 56 FR 1574, Jan. 16, 1991]

§ 842.43 Filing a claim.

(a) *How and when filed.* A claim is filed when a federal military agency receives from a claimant or duly authorized agent a properly completed Standard Form 95 or other signed and written demand for money damages in a